

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No.: 10/781,771

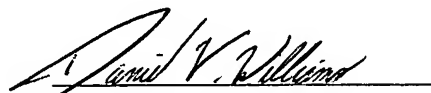
Attorney Docket No.: Q79652

or judicial notice at the point where patentable novelty is argued, but must come forward with pertinent prior art. See *Ex parte Cady*, 148 USPQ 162 (Bd. of App. 1965). One of the novel aspects of claim 2 is the oxide-film forming surface treatment, as described in the exemplary embodiment in the last paragraph of page 26, in the present specification. Therefore, the basic requirements of a *prima facie* case of obviousness are absent and the rejection of claim 2 should be withdrawn. (See MPEP §2143.)

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: May 3, 2005